history. The price limits it to a reference volume, but the contents are sufficiently wide-ranging and up to date to ensure it a place on a variety of different subjects' reading lists for students of the Palaeolithic.

References


Haliksa'i: UNM Contributions to Anthropology. Published by the University of New Mexico Anthropology Society. Annual Subscription 10 US Dollars.

Reviewed by Niel Holman

It seems apparent that one of the most important factors in the rapid development of the field of anthropology during the last quarter of a century has been the increase in the number of opportunities for publication. Of course, we all have our pet-hates -- expensive publications which we feel have little or nothing to offer. It is clear, however, that a return to the situation where 'down-the-line exchange' of ideas and concepts was the restricting norm, and where 'long-distance exchange' was a rare and privileged occurrence granted only to the 'Big Men' of anthropology in receipt of travel grants, would be to the great detriment of the discipline.

Similarly, the opportunity for young researchers to publish their ideas has tended to be limited. One means to overcome their deficiency is for a body of students to establish their own journal. The students of the Department of Anthropology at the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, took such a decision in 1980 and since then have published five annual volumes of Haliksa'i.

The title is taken from the language of the Hopi and is a word used at the beginning of a narrative (something akin to "Listen, this is how it is...").

Each volume comprises between ten and twelve papers, each of between 5,000 and 10,000 words in length. Recent volumes have also contained a short book reviews section. The text throughout is presented in a neat and easy to read two-column format. Most authors are drawn from the Department itself.

Contributions to Haliksa'i come from all the sub-disciplines of anthropology. There is a numerical bias towards archaeology, which seemingly reflects the strengths of the UNM Department, although there are papers of interest to all anthropologists in each volume. Papers often cross-cut accepted sub-disciplinary boundaries, which can perhaps be taken as a reflection of the flexibility and breadth of the Department's teaching programme.

Papers deal with anthropological data and problems from a variety of standpoints. Nevertheless, many take as their principal concern the development of rigorous methodologies. Archaeological papers often take materialistic perspectives and are frequently concerned with the fields of Palaeolithic archaeology, lolith and middle range research in general. The influence of Lewis Binford is clearly evident in evidence, but by no means does it overwhelm other types of contribution.

In the other sub-fields of anthropology, topics covered range from accounts of events of the historical development of anthropology (including, in volume two, a look at contributions by women to early American anthropology), a subject that will interest many ABC readers) to studies of the male prostitutes of Denver, Colorado. Citing these papers is intended to suggest that it would be difficult for the journal to have a greater variety of contributions. This is undoubtedly the case.

Haliksa'i is a valuable contribution to anthropology. Although it is a student-run journal, and as such serves an important role for reasons outlined earlier, to recommend it as a student-run journal would run the risk of sounding either patronizing or not entirely enthusiastic. Neither impression is intended. Haliksa'i is to be welcomed at face value as a useful and long-lived, addition to existing anthropological journals.


Reviewed by Andy Brown

A textbook is seldom written with the aim of being a joy to read. Northern Counties is no exception. In places refreshing and novel, in others deterministic and dated, Higham's work is indeed a comprehensive survey of the archaeological and historical literature of the northern counties (Cumberland, Durham, Lancashire, Northumberland and Westmorland), yet it fails by virtue of its very comprehensiveness. Cluttered with references, the text loses all of its fluency; perhaps the numbered reference system used, for example, in British Prehistory (Renfrew 1974), could have been adopted?

Nick Higham, Staff Tutor in History at Manchester's Extra-Mural Department, is a contributor to what is admitted to be an ambitious series of volumes, overseen by Barry Cunliffe and Daniel Hoy, which attempts to chronicle systematically the regional history of England.

Always strong on palaeoenvironmental evidence, Higham opens by setting the ecological scene, a theme to which he constantly returns, symphony-like, through to the Scandinavians' impact on the landscape. The opening movement covers the period up to c. 800 BC and each sub-section carries an air of uncertainty. The Mesolithic is dealt with using a traditional framework of trans-humanism. In marked contrast, the Mesolithic-Neolithic transition is treated with imagination, as Higham